

I claim:

1. A wireless digital communications network comprised of:

a base unit that includes a first transceiver capable of conducting wireless communications via a cordless telephone communications protocol, a microprocessor circuit operably connected with the first wireless transceiver, digital storage accessible by the microprocessor, and a telephone line interface capable of receiving audio signals from the microprocessor;

a cordless telephone handset, which handset includes a second wireless transceiver capable of conducting voice telephony via the cordless telephone communications protocol with the first transceiver;

a digital electronic device that includes a third wireless transceiver that communicates digital data other than that required for voice telephony with the first transceiver via the cordless telephone communications protocol.

2. The communications network of claim 1, in which the digital electronic device is a general purpose computer system.

3. The communications network of claim 1, in which the digital electronic device is a personal digital assistant.

4. The communications network of claim 3, in which the personal digital assistant is further comprised of an audio input and an audio output, and voice data is routed between the personal digital assistant audio input and output and the base unit

telephone line interface, via the third transceiver and the first transceiver, to conduct
5 voice telephony.

5. The communications network of claim 2, in which the computer is further
comprised of a microphone for audio input and an audio output, and voice data is routed
between the computer microphone and audio output and the base unit telephone line
interface, via the third transceiver and the first transceiver, to conduct voice telephony.

6. The communications network of claim 1, in which the digital electronic device
further includes an audio input that routes voice data to the third transceiver for
transmission to the first transceiver, and an audio output that receives voice data from
the third transceiver transmitted by the first transceiver, whereby voice telephony can be
5 conducted with the digital electronic device through the base unit telephone line
interface.

7. The communications network of claim 1, in which the base unit is further
comprised of a communications port through which the microprocessor communicates
with a second digital communications network, whereby digital data communications
can occur between the second digital communications network and the digital electronic
5 device.

8. The communications network of claim 7, in which the second network includes
connectivity with the Internet.

9. The communications network of claim 7, in which the communications port is disposed on an expansion module that can be alternately installed into or removed from the base unit.

10. The communications network of claim 1, in which the base unit is further comprised of an analog data modem capable of communicating data from the base unit microprocessor to a second digital communications network through the telephone line interface.

11. The communications network of claim 1, in which the base unit is further comprised of means for communicating digital data with a second digital communications network.

12. The communications network of claim 1, in which the base unit, cordless telephone handset and digital electronic device are each associated with a unique device identification number.

13. The communications network of claim 12, in which the data communicated between the first transceiver and third transceiver is encrypted using a variable encryption key.

19. The communications network of claim 7, in which the base unit is further comprised of a first encryption key for encrypting data transmitted to the digital electronic device, and a second encryption key for encrypting data transmitted to the second communications network.

TELEPHONE